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RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico has earned 2 the Sembrador del Bien Award from the Sin Fronteras Organizing 3 Project for his notable efforts to promote justice and positive 4 change in his community; and

5 WHEREAS, Bill Richardson has dedicated his life to the public 6 good as a United States congressman, ambassador to the United 7 Nations, United States secretary of energy, and now governor of New 8 Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Richardson began his career as a public servant 9 as the U.S. representative for New Mexico's 3rd Congressional 10 11 District; his many accomplishments during his 15 years of service 12 in this position include bringing new industry to the state, helping to create the Jemez National Recreation Area and protect 13 14 the Rio Grande and the San Juan Basin, and successfully winning the release of hostages, military personnel, and prisoners in North 15 16 Korea, Iraq, Cuba, and Sudan; and

WHEREAS, Nominated to represent the United States at the United Nations by President Bill Clinton in 1997, Ambassador Richardson worked to promote universal human rights and democracy, to improve the status of women in foreign lands, and to stop the spread of international terrorism and the proliferation of biological weapons; and

23 WHEREAS, Unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate as 24 secretary of energy in 1998, Secretary Richardson was a champion

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1 for clean and renewable technologies, for environmental 2 responsibility, and for reducing the nation's dependence on foreign 3 sources of oil; he was the first secretary of energy to request the congress to provide compensation for Department of Energy workers 4 5 whose health had been affected by working in nuclear power plants; 6 and

7 WHEREAS, In his role as governor, Bill Richardson has 8 garnered support across party lines by improving education, cutting 9 taxes, expanding access to health care, helping to develop 10 renewable energy, and building a stronger economy for the people of 11 New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Governor Richardson has further served his state and 12 nation as chairman of the Western Governors' Association and the 13 14 Border Governors' Conference, as chairman of Freedom House, a 15 nonpartisan organization promoting democracy worldwide, and as a member of the boards of the Natural Resources Defense Council and 16 17 United Way International; for his work freeing hostages and prisoners around the world, he has been nominated four times for the 18 19 Nobel Peace Prize; and

20 WHEREAS, The strength of our communities depends on the 21 commitment and dedication of leaders who, like Bill Richardson, use 22 their considerable talents to benefit others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico on winning the Sembrador del Bien Award from the Sin Fronteras Organizing Project and extend best wishes to him for continued success; and, be it further

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H.R. No. 1384 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Governor Richardson as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Chavez

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1384 was adopted by the House on April 19, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House